

GENERIC NAME: **ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID, ASPIRIN, ASA**
112.01

BRAND NAME: Bufferin, Anacin, APC, among others
CLASS: analgesic; antipyretic; anti-inflammatory

Mechanism of Action:

In small doses aspirin blocks thromboxane A₂, a potent platelet aggregant and vasoconstrictor. This property has led to its use in the acute phase of management of the myocardial infarction. Decreased platelet aggregation.

Indications and Field Use:

Chest pain or other signs/symptoms suggestive of acute myocardial infarction
ECG changes suggestive of acute myocardial infarction
Unstable angina
Pain, discomfort, fever in adult patient only

Contraindications:

Bleeding ulcer, hemorrhagic states, hemophilia
Known hypersensitivity to salicylates or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatories that has led to hypotension and/or bronchospasm
Children and adolescents (prehospital personnel should not administer ASA to this age group)

Adverse Reactions:

Use with caution in the patient with history of asthma. Anaphylactic reactions in sensitive patients have occurred; skin eruptions
Other side effects rare with single dose

NOTES ON ADMINISTRATION

Incompatibilities/Drug Interactions:

Not applicable with single dose therapy

Adult Dosage:

Cardiac: 160- 325 mg (2-4 pediatric chewable tabs), chew or swallow
Pain/discomfort/fever: 325 mg po (4 pediatric chewable tablets), chew or swallow

Pediatric Dosage:

Not recommended for prehospital use in children

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Routes of Administration:

Oral

Onset of Action:

20-30 minutes

Peak Effects:

2 hours

Duration of Action:

4-6 hours

Dosage Forms/Packaging:

81 - 325 mg tablet individually packaged

Arizona Drug Box Supply Range:

PARAMEDIC:	36 - 100 Tablets
INTERMEDIATE:	36 - 100 Tablets
BASIC:	36 - 100 Tablets

Special Notes:

- > Baby ASA is heat and light sensitive. The odor of acetic acid (vinegar-like smell) indicates degradation of product